

# Immigration and Labor Supply

Center for Labor Market Studies

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Table 1:  
Estimates of the Number of New Foreign Immigrants in the U.S. During the 1990s and Their Contribution to  
Resident Population Growth in the Nation, 1990 to 2000  
 (Numbers in 1000's)

Population Variable	Value
Population 1990	248,710
Population 2000	281,422
Growth in Population	32,712
New Foreign Born Immigrants, 1990-2000	13,178
New Immigrants from Puerto Rico and the U.S Island Areas, 1990-2000	368
Total New Foreign Immigrants, 1990-2000	13,543
New Immigrants' Share of Population Growth	41.4%

Sources: (i) 1990 Census of Population and Housing;  
 (ii) 2000 Census of Population and Housing;  
 (iii) Census 2000 Supplemental Survey.

Table 2:  
Comparisons of Net New Foreign Immigration into the  
U.S., Selected Decades, 1890-1900 to 1990-2000  
 (Numbers in 1000's)

Decade	Number of Net New Immigrants
1890-1900	3,328
1900-1910	5,586
1910-1920	4,117
1920-1930	1,965
1970-1980	5,595
1980-1990	8,800
1990-2000	13,543
1890-1920, Total	13,031

- Sources:
- (i) U.S. Bureau of the Census, Historical Statistics of the Foreign Born Population of the United States;
  - (ii) 2000 Census of Population and Housing;
  - (iii) Census 2000 Supplemental Survey;
  - (iv) March 2000 and March 2001 CPS household surveys.

Chart 1:  
Net New Foreign Immigration Inflows into the U.S.,  
Selected Decades 1890-1900 to 1990-2000  
(Numbers in Millions)

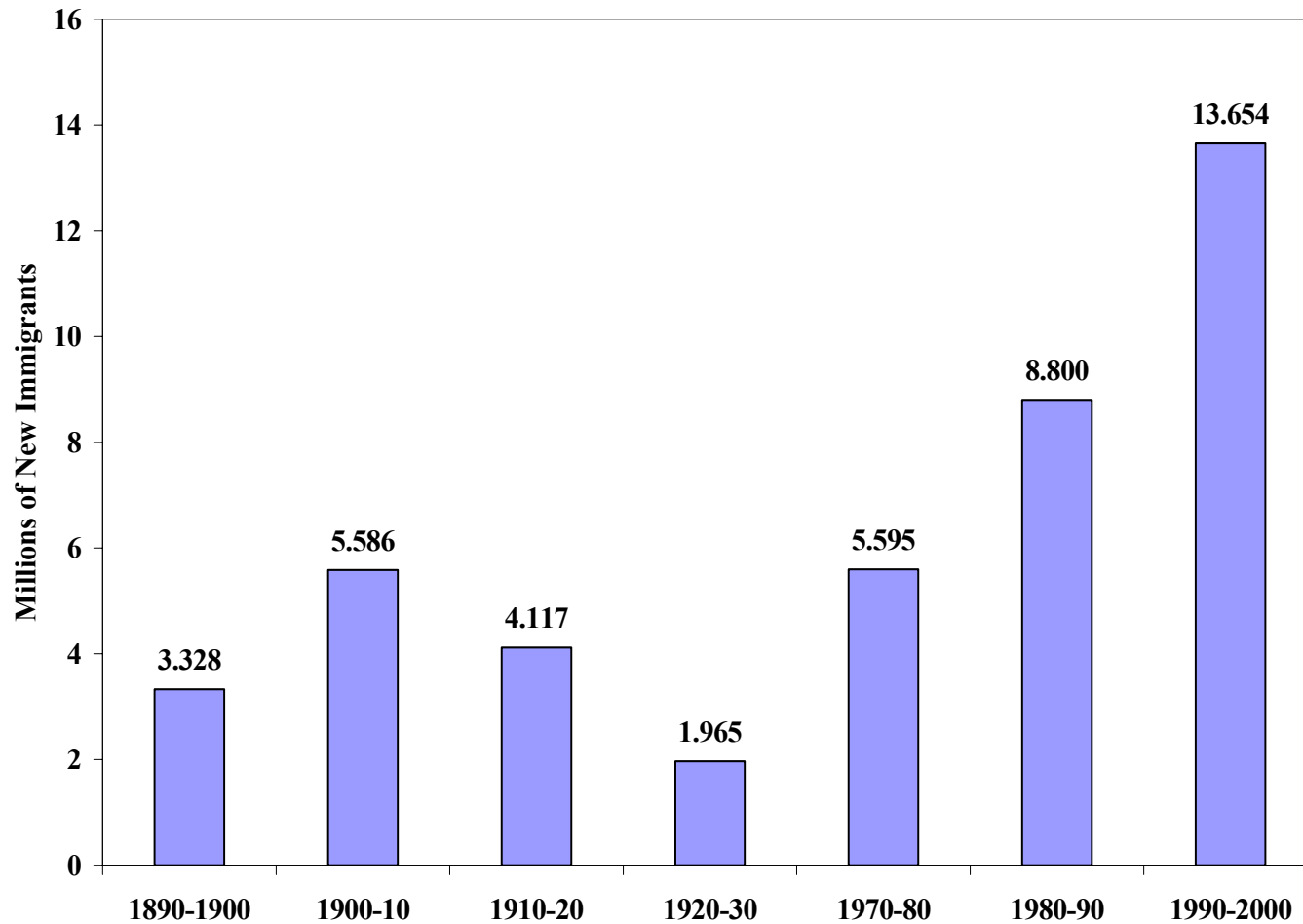


Chart 2:  
Number of New Foreign Immigrants in the U.S. 1990 – 2000, by Geographic Region  
(Numbers in 1000s)

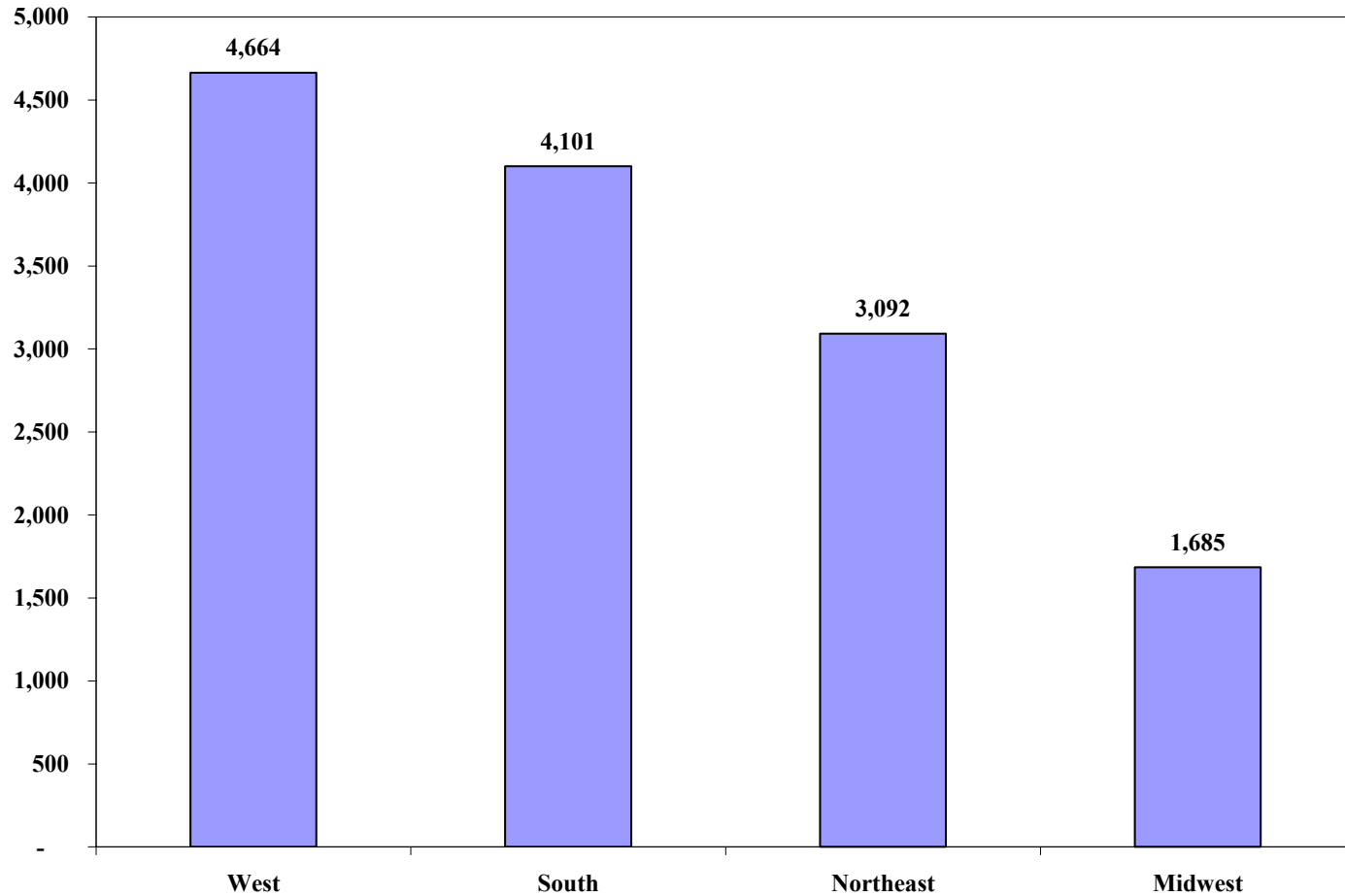
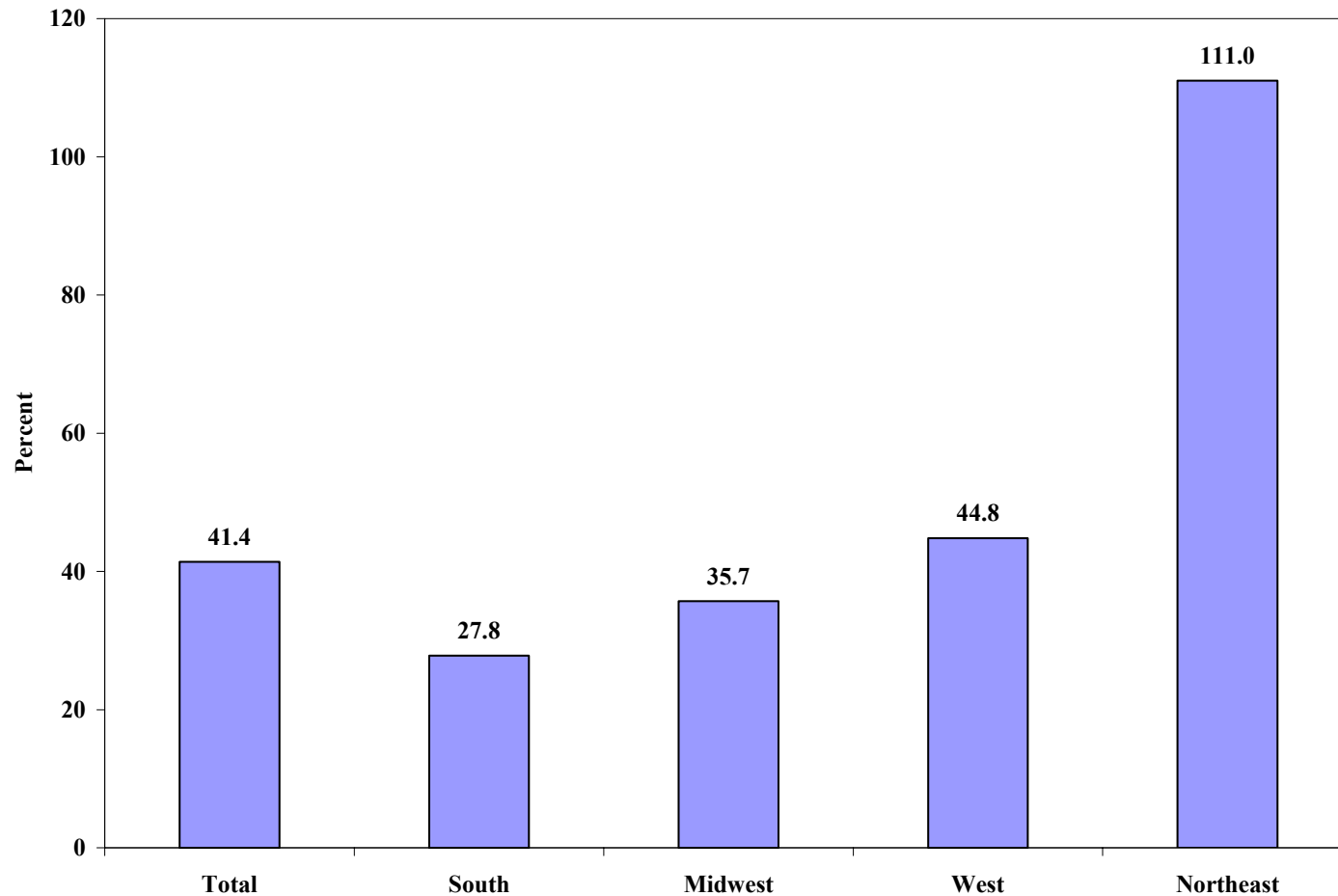


Chart 3:  
New Foreign Born Arrivals as a Percent of the Change in the  
Resident Population of the U.S. and the Four Major Geographic Regions, 1990 – 2000



**Chart 4:**  
**New Foreign Born Arrivals as a Percent of the Change in the Resident**  
**Population of the Nine Geographic Divisions, 1990-2000**  
**(in %)**

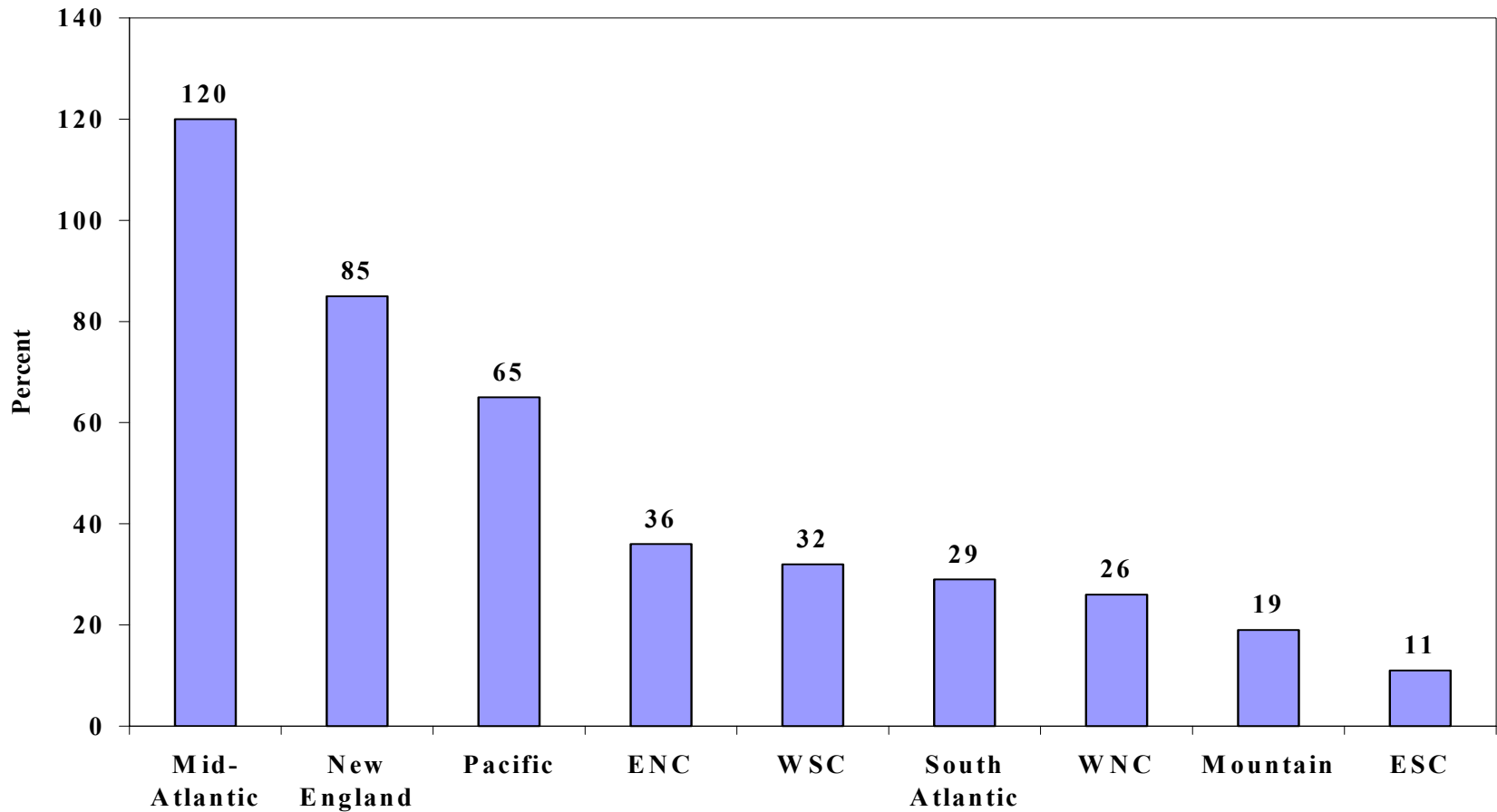


Table 3:  
The Working-Age Population (16 and Older) as a Percent of the Total Civilian  
Non-institutional Population by Nativity Status, U.S.: 2000-2001 Monthly Averages  
(Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
Population Variable	All	Native Born	Foreign Born	New Immigrant
Civilian Noninstitutional Population	275,247	244,546	30,701	13,185
Working-Age Population	214,788	186,237	28,551	11,222
Percent of Population that is Working-age	78.0	76.1	93.0	85.1

Source: Monthly CPS surveys, public use files, 2000-2001, tabulations by authors.



Table 4:  
Civilian Labor Force Participation Rates, Unemployment Rates, and  
Employment/Population Ratios of the Working-Age Population by  
Nativity Status, U.S.: 2000-2001  
(in %)

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
Labor Force Activity Measure	All	Native Born	Foreign Born	New Immigrant
Civilian labor force participation rate	67.2	67.3	66.6	67.6
Unemployment rate	4.4	4.4	4.9	5.8
Employment/Population ratio	64.2	64.3	63.4	63.7

Table 5:  
The Nativity Status of the U.S. Civilian Labor Force in 2001  
(Annual Averages, Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
	Total Civilian Labor Force	Native Born	Foreign Born <sup>(1)</sup>	New Foreign Immigrants
Number of Participants	141,815	122,564	19,251	8,031
Percent of Nation's Civilian Labor Force	100.0	86.4	13.6	5.7

Source: (i) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 2002.

(ii) 2001 monthly CPS surveys, public use data files, tabulations by authors.

Note: (1) Our foreign born estimates include persons born in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the other island territories of the U.S.

Table 6:

The Growth of the U.S. Civilian Labor Force Between 1990 and 2001 (Annual Averages, in 1000s) and the Number of New Immigrants in the 2001 Labor Force

Labor Force Variable	Value
1990 civilian labor force	125,857
2001 civilian labor force	141,815
Growth in civilian labor force, 1990 –2001	15,958
Number of new immigrants in labor force in 2001	8,031
New immigrant share of civilian labor force growth	50.3%

Source: (i) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 2002.

(ii) 2001 monthly CPS surveys, public use data files, tabulations by authors.

Table 7:  
Civilian Labor Force Growth in the U.S., Selected Time Periods 1970-2001 and  
the Amount of Such Growth Attributable to New Foreign Immigration  
(Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)	(C)
Time Period	Change In CLF	Number of New Immigrants In CLF	New Immigrant Share of CLF Growth
1970 – 80 <sup>(1)</sup>	24,398	2,488	10.2%
1980 – 90 <sup>(2)</sup>	19,024	5,079	26.7%
1990 – 2001 <sup>(3)</sup>	15,958	8,031	50.3%

Sources: (i) 1970, 1980, 1990 Census of Population and Housing;  
(ii) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 2002.  
(iii) Monthly CPS household surveys, public use files, tabulations by authors.

Note: (1) Data for 1970-80 exclude persons immigrating to the U.S. from Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and the outlying island territories of the U.S.  
(2) Estimates are based on findings of the decennial censuses for these years.  
(3) Estimates are annual averages based on CPS household surveys for both time periods. The 1990 estimate represents the adjusted CLF estimate based on Census 1990 population benchmarks.

Table 8:  
Civilian Labor Force Growth in the Four Geographic Regions of the U.S. Between 1990 and  
2001 and the Amount of Such Growth Attributable to New Foreign Immigration  
 (Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
Geographic Region	1990 CLF	2001 CLF	Change in CLF, 1990 – 2001	New Immigrants in CLF 2001	Share of CLF Growth Due to New Immigrants
Northeast	25,842	6,298	456	1,789	392
Midwest	30,483	33,903	3,420	1,014	30
South	42,549	49,427	6,833	2,427	36
West	26,920	32,189	5,269	2,644	50

Sources: (i) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment.  
 (ii) 2001 monthly CPS surveys, tabulations by the Center for Labor Market Studies.

Table 9:  
Civilian Labor Force Growth in the Nine Geographic Divisions Between 1990 and  
2001 and the Amount Attributable to New Foreign Immigration  
(Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
Geographic Divisions	1990 CLF	2001 CLF	Change in CLF 1990 – 2001	New Immigrants In CLF 2001 <sup>1</sup>	Share of CLF Growth Due in New Immigrants (%)
New England	7,146	7,212	66	374	567
Middle Atlantic	18,696	19,084	388	1,414	364
East North Central	21,299	23,477	2,178	762	35
West North Central	9,184	10,425	1,241	252	20
South Atlantic	22,272	25,791	3,519	1,585	45
East South Central	7,228	8,229	1,001	137	14
West South Central	13,094	15,405	2,311	864	37
Rocky Mountain	6,885	9,109	2,224	465	21
Pacific	20,035	23,079	3,044	2,178	72

- Sources:
- (i) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment.
  - (ii) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, May 2002.
  - (iii) 2001 Monthly CPS Surveys, tabulations by Center for Labor Market Studies.

Note: New immigrants are those persons who arrived in the U.S. from 1990 to 2001.

Table 10:  
Ten States with the Highest and Lowest Shares of their Resident  
Labor Force Growth Due to New Foreign Immigration, 1990 – 2001

	(A)	(B)
Top Ten States	Number of New Immigrants In CLF (in 1000s)	Percent of CLF Growth Due to New Immigrants
New York	879	-- <sup>(1)</sup>
Rhode Island	24	-- <sup>(1)</sup>
Connecticut	81	-- <sup>(1)</sup>
Massachusetts	249	445
New Jersey	404	345
California	1,883	87
Illinois	366	85
Hawaii	46	83
Maryland	173	76
Florida	807	67
<b>Bottom Ten States</b>		
Mississippi	15	13.6
Louisiana	23	10.7
Alabama	27	10.4
Vermont	3	10.3
Idaho	18	9.5
Maine	4	9.0
South Dakota	4	6.7
West Virginia	4	5.8
Wyoming	18	4.5
Montana	2	3.4

Note: <sup>(1)</sup> -- Implies that ratio cannot be calculated since labor force growth between 1990-2001 was negative.

Chart 5:  
Male Share of the Working-Age Population by Nativity Status,  
U.S., 2000-2001 Monthly Averages  
(in %)

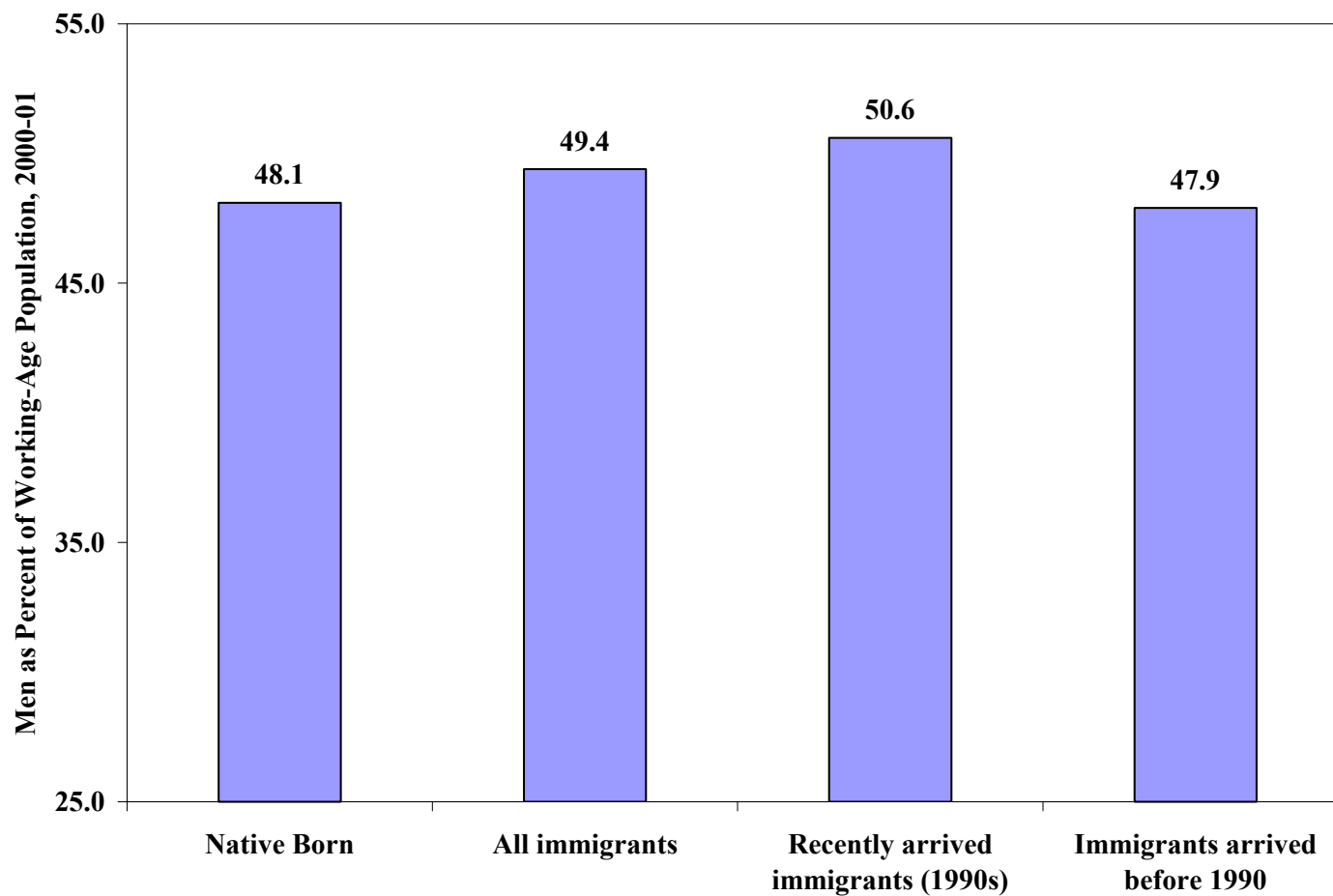




Table 11:  
Civilian Labor Force Participation Rates, Unemployment Rates, and  
Employment/Population Ratios of New Immigrants by Gender, U.S.: 2000-2001 Averages

	(A)	(B)	(C)
Labor Force Activity Measure	All	Men	Women
Civilian labor force participation rate	67.6	82.9	52.1
Unemployment rate	5.8	4.8	7.5
Employment/population ratio	63.7	78.9	48.1

Source: Monthly CPS household surveys, 2000-2001, tabulations by authors.

Table 12:  
The Gender Composition of the Civilian  
Labor Force by Nativity Status, U.S.: 2000-2001 Averages  
(in %)

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
Variable/Gender Group	All	Native Born	Foreign Born	New Immigrants
<b>Civilian labor force</b>				
• Men	53.4	52.5	58.8	62.0
• Women	46.6	47.5	41.2	38.0

Table 13:  
Growth in the Civilian Labor Force 1990-2000/01 and the  
Share of Such Growth Due to New Foreign Immigrants, by Gender, U.S.  
(Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)
Variable	Men	Women
1990 Civilian Labor Force	69,705	56,719
2000-01 Civilian Labor Force	75,599	66,050
Growth of Civilian Labor Force, 1990-2000/01	5,894	9,331
New Immigrants in Civilian Labor Force in 2000-01	4,628	2,840
Share of Labor Force Growth Due to New Immigrants	78.5%	30.4%

Source: (i) U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, January 2002;  
(ii) Monthly CPS Surveys, 2000-01, tabulations by authors.

Table 14:  
Growth in Civilian Employment in the U.S. 1990-2000/01 and the Share of Such  
Growth Due to New Foreign Immigrants by Gender: U.S. Annual Averages  
(Numbers in 1000s)

	(A)	(B)	(C)
Variable	Men	Women	Total
1990 Employed	65,906	53,644	119,550
2000-01 Employed	72,244	63,126	135,370
Growth of Employment, 1990-2000/01	6,338	9,482	15,820
New employed immigrants in 2000-01	4,404	2,628	7,032
Share of employment growth due to new immigrants	69.5%	27.7%	44.5%

Table 15:  
Changes in the Civilian Labor Force of the U.S by Age Group, 1990 to 2000/01  
 (Numbers in 1000s)

	1990	2000-2001	Absolute Change	Recent Immigrants	Immigrants' Share of Growth
Total	125,847	141,649	15,792	7,469	47.3%
<b>Age</b>					
16 – 24	22,493	22,780	287	1,678	584.7%
25 – 34	35,938	31,405	-4,533	2,873	All
35 – 44	32,149	37,735	5,586	1,771	31.7%
45 – 54	20,249	30,994	10,745	797	7.4%
55 – 64	11,578	14,361	2,783	292	10.5%
65 or more	3,449	4,374	925	56	6.1%

Table 16:  
Changes in the Civilian Labor Force of the  
U.S. by Educational Attainment, 1990 to 2000/01

Educational Attainment	1990	2000-2001	Absolute Change	Recent Immigrants	Immigrants' Share of Growth
Less than high school	22,587	18,775	-3,812	2,468	All
High school graduate	36,815	44,044	7,230	1,867	25.8%
Some college	36,345	40,452	4,108	1,123	27.3%
College graduate (Bachelor's or higher degree)	27,557	38,377	10,820	2,010	18.6

Table 17:  
Percentage Distribution of All Employed Persons by Class of Worker, U.S., 2000-2001

Class of Worker	All	Native born	All immigrants	Recently arrived immigrants	Earlier arrival immigrants
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Private wage & salary workers	75.9%	74.8%	82.9%	89.4%	78.6%
Government	13.8%	14.7%	7.7%	5.0%	9.5%
Self employed	10.2%	10.3%	9.2%	5.5%	11.7%
Without pay	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%

Table 18:  
Percentage Distribution of the Native Born, All Foreign Born and Recent  
Immigrant Workers in the U.S. by Major Industrial Sector, 2000-2001 Averages

	(A)	(B)	(C)
Major Industry	Native Born	Foreign Born	New Foreign Immigrants
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Mining	2.8	3.9	4.6
Construction	6.8	8.3	10.0
Manufacturing	13.9	17.5	17.4
• Durable	8.6	10.0	9.7
• Non-durable	5.3	7.5	7.7
Wholesale trade	3.9	3.7	3.4
Retail trade	16.6	18.0	20.6
Finance, insurance, real estate	6.7	5.1	3.6
Business/repair services	6.9	8.8	10.4
Personal services	4.9	8.0	8.5
Professional services	25.3	18.8	15.9
Public administration	4.8	2.0	1.0

Source: Monthly CPS surveys 2000 to 2001, public use files, tabulations by authors.



Table 19:  
Percent Distribution of the Native Born, All Foreign Born, and Recent  
Immigrant Workers in the U.S. by Major Occupational Group, 2000-2001 Averages

	(A)	(B)	(C)
Major Occupational Group	Native Born	Foreign Born	New Foreign Immigrants
Professional	16.1	13.5	13.3
Managers/Administrators/Executives	15.5	10.1	7.0
Technical	3.3	2.9	2.7
High level sales	7.2	4.9	3.2
Low level sales	5.2	4.7	5.3
Administrative support	14.5	9.1	7.1
Services	12.8	19.4	22.4
Farm/forestry/fishing	2.3	4.0	5.0
Skilled blue collar	10.7	12.7	12.8
Assemblers/fabricators/operators	8.8	12.8	13.4
Laborers/helpers/cleaners	3.7	5.9	7.9

Table A1:  
The Individual States Comprising  
Census Regions and Divisions of the United States

<b><u>NORTHEAST REGION</u></b>	
<b>New England Division</b>	<b>Middle Atlantic Division</b>
Maine	New York
New Hampshire	New Jersey
Vermont	Pennsylvania
Massachusetts	
Rhode Island	
Connecticut	
<b><u>MIDWEST REGION</u></b>	
<b>East North Central Division</b>	<b>West North Central Division</b>
Ohio	Minnesota
Indiana	Iowa
Illinois	Missouri
Michigan	North Dakota
Wisconsin	South Dakota
	Nebraska
	Kansas
<b><u>SOUTH REGION</u></b>	
<b>East South Central Division</b>	<b>West South Central Division</b>
Kentucky	Arkansas
Tennessee	Louisiana
Alabama	Oklahoma
Mississippi	Texas
<b>South Atlantic Division</b>	
Delaware	
Maryland	
District of Columbia	
Virginia	
West Virginia	
North Carolina	
South Carolina	
Georgia	
Florida	
<b><u>WEST REGION</u></b>	
<b>Mountain Division</b>	<b>Pacific Division</b>
Montana	Washington
Idaho	Oregon
Wyoming	California
Colorado	Alaska
New Mexico	Hawaii
Arizona	